

Ogden Middle School Newsletter May 3, 2010

Dear Parents,

You will find your child's midterm report and Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) results with this newsletter. I am pleased on how well the Ogden Middle School students did on the ITBS. Approximately 85% of our student population was proficient in the areas of math, science and reading. A student is considered proficient if they have a National Percentage Ranking (NPR) of 41 or higher.

If your child scored below proficiency in Reading Comprehension and/or Math Total, your child will need to retake this portion of the ITBS. Ogden Middle School looks closely at these scores to help guide individual student initiatives and school-wide programs. It is important for us to know if these scores are accurate. In an endeavor to solidify or challenge current scores, we will have your child retake areas of non-proficiency.

We will not pull students out of class time to retake these tests. The tests will be taken during the morning of May 12. While students are retaking these tests, the 7th and 8th grade students will be on a field trip and the 5th and 6th grade will be involved in school activities. If your child scored below 41 in math or reading comprehension, he/she will need to be involved in test retakes instead of participating in these activities.

We are providing testing alternatives the mornings of May 11 and May 12. On Tuesday, May 11 (7:00 am-8:00) the ITBS reading test will be given in the OMS technology lab. On Wednesday, May 12 (7:00 am-8:00) the ITBS math test will be given in the OMS technology lab.

If you allow your child to test early by providing them transportation to school, it will then allow them to participate in activities planned on May 12. If a student does not test early and is absent on May 12, a time will be established outside of school for him/her to get this testing completed.

Please encourage your student to give a strong effort on the ITBS retakes. These results will determine if he/she will be assigned to extra reading/math support next school year at OMS (5-7 grade students) or could affect class options at Ogden High School (8th grade students). If you have any questions, please call me at 515-275-2912.

I would ask you to read over the OMS dress code in the student planner. With warmer weather here, we are seeing students push the limits of our dress code. Although there are gray areas in determining what is appropriate attire in the school realm, it will be determined by the OMS staff on what is in violation. It is our responsibility to mold the students in a way that they are successful in a future job market. Education and appearance are two major factors in successfully getting and maintaining a job. You can google "dress for success" and find many references that give good guidelines in dress. It is these types of dress expectations that we need to promote in the school setting. Review the dress code with your child and please err on the conservative side when approving what your child wears to school.

Sincerely,

Mike Van Sickle, OMS Principal

Mr. Dave Neubauer
Dean of Students @ OMS

When I was a teenager my parents bought me a stereo one Christmas. My parents allowed me to put this new technology in my bedroom because it was going to help alleviate arguments between my siblings and me and bring us closer together as a family. However, after a month of never coming out of my room, my parents quickly realized that with any new technology comes an unintended consequence. In my case, sibling harmony was replaced with family separation (not to mention my constant pestering my parent for money to buy albums and their disapproval of my type of music).

Technology has made many things in life much easier. However, I do not believe parenting in the technology age is one of them. Parents often want and need their kids to be familiar with the latest technological trends. Many times, parents have a hard time keeping up with the capabilities of current technology; therefore many parents do not anticipate the unforeseen negative consequences of providing their children with technology.

Some parents and children feel they need to have instant access with each other even during school hours. Although it is nice to get messages to students, one unintended consequence has been the insecurity that children develop because they need the parent to solve their problems immediately whether it is student to student or student to teacher. I am afraid that children are having a harder time becoming independent and the security that brings them in the adult world.

The Internet and cell phones are wonderful tools that offer ways to give and receive information in a heartbeat. By now most parents have become familiar with words such as cyberbullying and sexting. These tools can be used to extend help or inflict hurt. Anonymous postings, when used in a hurtful way, have become way too common but I ask, "Would you show that much disrespect to a person to their face?" Some believe, "It's my blog (text or site) and I can say what I want". They're right. Anyone can say what he or she wants to, when they want. Bullying is still bullying. Having the right does not mean it is the right thing to do.

Video games are a great source of entertainment, but much like the turntables of my teen years the treat to the family remains the same. Recently, I was made aware that students could access porn from their playstations. My guess is most parents have no idea this was even possible. If kids are subjected to porn how will this impact the way healthy, loving relationships are developed between men and women? What will be the definition of how to treat and respect each other if from an early age kids are subjected to porn?

Technology rules (who, what, where, when, and how technology is used) are now a must in your parenting skills. Quiet kids do not always mean good kids. Is your child developing into a well-rounded person? Play time (exercise), reading, chores, homework, face to face conversation should take play every night in your child's life. Trusting, yet monitoring, your children's use of technology is your right as a parent. Taking technology away can be a powerful consequence. Family time without technology, what a new idea!

Career Day

May 12th

8:45 – 11:00

This year Career day will take on a new format!

Students will visit . . .

7th Graders will visit DMACC at Boone

- Tour the campus
- Learn about summer workshops
- Explore college based career paths

8th Graders will visit the Hunziker Center in Ames

- Tour the facilities
- Identify programs available to them as students in HS
- Explore vocational career paths

Dear Parents/Families of Ogden 8th Graders:

I would like to encourage you to attend this spring's 8th grade orientation. We are hosting it Thursday, May 13, at 7:00 at Ogden High School. This opportunity allows both students and families to meet staff and students of Ogden High School. We also hope it allows for a chance to get familiar with our building and what to expect in the next four years and beyond.

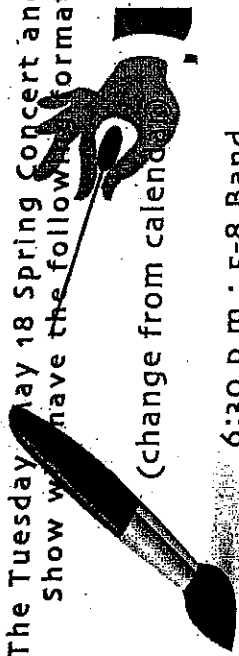
We will begin our evening in the multipurpose room (old pool area) at 7:00. You will then break up into groups for a tours and informational sessions from staff, students, and counselor. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the high school at 275-2289. We look forward to seeing you.

Sincerely,

Rich Dutcher
High School Counselor

IMPORTANT CHANGE TO SPRING CONCERT and ART SHOW

The Tuesday May 18 Spring Concert and Art Show will have the following format:



(change from calendar)

6:30 p.m.: 5-8 Band

7:30 p.m.: 5-8 Choir

All band members arrive by 6:10 p.m.
Choir members who are NOT in band arrive by 7:15 p.m.

Remember to check the OMS Bands website for
more information:

<http://sites.google.com/site/omsbands/>

Includes:

Daily Calendar
Announcements
Pictures

End of the Year Special Events

8th Grade Graduation &
7th Grade Awards Assembly

7:00 PM Thursday, June 3

To be able to attend the following end-of-the-year events, a student cannot be failing any class and must be in good behavioral standing.

8th Grade Adventureland Day

June 4 9:00-6:00 PM

Cost: \$10.00

Parents Welcome at \$17.50/ticket

Bring your money that morning.
Students/parents will pay as they board the bus to leave OMS.

7th Grade Lock-In

Starting at 9:00 PM June 4 Ending at 7:00 AM June 5

Doors will close at 11:00 PM Friday Night

Cost: \$5.00 (To pay for pizza & pop)

Parents wanting to chaperone: Call 275-2912

Note: Students will need a sleeping bag and pillow.

5th - 6th Grade Skating Party

June 4 ...9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Cost: Free

Ogden Middle School 7-8 Baseball and Softball 2010

Baseball and softball programs will have a student athlete meeting during homeroom on Thursday, May 6 and begin practice on Monday, May 10. Practices start at 3:30 and will be concluded between 5:30 and 6:00. The coaches will be providing a schedule of specific dates and time of practices. The OMS softball team will practice at the middle school until the end of the school year and practice at the Ogden High School during the summer. The OMS baseball team will practice solely at the high school.

The summer ball program fees are \$30.00 for each athlete or \$45.00 for each family. The family rate is only applicable if a family has more than one participant in the 7th or 8th grade teams. The fees help pay for officials and supplies. All baseball and softball players will be given a game hat/visor compliments of the City State Bank. Fees also buy each player a game jersey/t-shirt that will remain the property of the athlete.

This year we will allow sixth grade boys to play on the seventh grade team, when needed. I am allowing this due to the small numbers on the seventh grade squad. The six graders will play when there is a seventh grade double header or if 7th grade players are going to be absent. The sixth grade fee to play is \$15.00, which covers the cost of the jersey. The sixth grade boy players may practice with and be part of the junior high (JH) team as long as the JH schedule does not conflict with the Ogden/Boone summer leagues. It is important that athletes fulfill their commitment to these teams first.

Additional uniform requirements are needed. Baseball players will need to have gray baseball pants, a royal blue belt, and royal blue socks. Softball players will need to have black shorts and it is recommended to have sliding shorts. Jerseys are adult sizes and random numbers are assigned. Names can be placed on the back of the jerseys if parents choose to have that done independently.

Attached are the baseball and softball schedules. Families are assigned dates and times to work in the concession booth during these game times. A schedule will be provided at the parent meeting held prior to the first game. You may switch times with other parents as long as the concession stand is staffed.

Please fill out the information below and return it with the appropriate fee by Friday, May 7. It is important to get this in on time to have jerseys ordered and returned prior to the first ball games. If you have any questions, call me at 515-275-2912.

Sincerely,
Mike Van Sickle, OMS AD

-----Cut and Return-----

Athlete Name: _____

Sport (circle): Baseball or Softball

Competitive Grade (circle): Eighth Seventh Sixth

Parent/s Name and Number: _____

Money Attached (circle): \$30.00 individual \$45.00 family \$15.00 sixth grade boy

Adult Shirt Size (circle): Small Medium Large X-Large

Ogden Middle School Baseball Schedule 2010

<u>Date</u>	<u>Game Times</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Teams</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Bus</u>
5/26	4:00 & 5:30	CMB	8 & 7	Ogden	
6/2	5:00 & 6:30	JS	7 A/B	Ogden	
	5:00 & 6:30	JS	8 A/B	Ogden	
6/8	5:00 & 6:30	CN	8 & 7	Zearing	3:30
6/9	10:00 & 11:30	Gilbert	7 A/B	Ogden	
	10:00 & 11:30	Gilbert	8 A/B	Ogden	
6/10	12:00 & 1:30	JS	7 A/B	Jefferson	10:45
	12:00 & 1:30	JS	8 A/B	Jefferson	
6/14	10:00 & 11:30	EG	7 & 8	Rippey	9:15
6/15	10:00 & 11:30	RS	7 A/B	Ogden	
	10:00 & 11:30	RS	8 A/B	Ogden	
6/16	10:00 & 11:30	SEWG	8 & 7	Ogden	
6/21	10:00 & 11:30	East Greene	7 & 8	Ogden	
6/23	5:30 & 7:00	Gilbert	8 & 7	Gilbert	4:15
6/24	5:00 & 6:30	CN	8 & 7	Ogden	
6/28	5:00 & 6:30	JS	7 A/B	Ogden	
	5:00 & 6:30	JS	8 A/B	Ogden	
6/29	10:00 & 11:30	Nevada	7 A/B	Nevada	9:15
	10:00 & 11:30	Nevada	8 A/B	Ogden	
7/1	10:00 & 11:30	SH	7 A/B	Ogden	
	10:00 & 11:30	SH	8 A/B	Ogden	

Coaches: Doug Wicks 515-432-0000 Sean Thompson 515-275-2190

Summer Coordinator: Andrew Pfaltzgraff 515-230-8342

Athletic Director: Mike Van Sickle 515-275-2912, 515-275-3222, 515-230-3704

Ogden Middle School Softball Schedule 2010

<u>Date</u>	<u>Game Times</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Teams</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Bus</u>
5/27	5:00 & 6:30	CN	8 & 7	Ogden	
5/28	5:00 & 6:30	Gilbert	8 & 7	Ogden	
6/1	5:00 & 6:30	CMB	8 & 7	Collins	3:00
6/7	10:00 & 11:30	JS	7 A/B	Jefferson	8:45
	10:00 & 11:30	JS	8 A/B	Jefferson	
6/8	10:00 & 11:30	SH	8 & 7	Jewell	8:30
6/10	10:00 & 11:30	PV	7 & 8	Ogden	
6/11	10:00 & 11:30	SEWG	7 & 8	Harcourt	8:40
6/14	10:00 & 11:30	CN	8 & 7	McCallsburg	8:15
6/15	5:00 & 6:30	JS	7 A/B	Ogden	
	5:00 & 6:30	JS	8 A/B	Ogden	
6/16	5:00 & 6:30	Gilbert	8 & 7	Gilbert	3:30
6/18	10:00 & 11:30	PV	7 & 8	PV middle school	8:15
6/22	10:00 & 11:30	EG	7 & 8	Grand Junction	9:00
6/23	5:00 & 6:30	CMB	8 & 7	Ogden	
6/24	10:00 & 11:30	SEWG	7 & 8	Ogden	
6/28	5:00 & 6:30	Nevada	8 & 7	Nevada	3:45
6/30	5:00 & 6:30	EG	8 & 7	Ogden	

Coaches: Sandy Moore 515-275-2795/ 515-537-4356 Jessica Christensen 515-465-7030

Summer Coordinator: Andrew Pfaltzgraff 515-230-8342

Athletic Director: Mike Van Sickle 515-275-2912, 515-275-3222, 515-230-3704